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28 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BERNADINE GRIFFITH; et al.,
individually and on behalf of all others
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,
vs.
TIKTOK, INC., a corporation;
BYTEDANCE, INC., a corporation
Defendants.

Case No. 5:23-cv-00964-SB-E

**PLAINTIFFS' REPLY
MEMORANDUM IN FURTHER
SUPPORT OF THEIR MOTION
FOR CLASS CERTIFICATION**

**REDACTED VERSION OF
DOCUMENT PROPOSED TO BE
FILED UNDER SEAL**

JUDGE: Hon. Stanley Blumenfeld, Jr.
DATE: August 16, 2024
COURTROOM:
350 West 1st Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Courtroom 6C

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Mangum ¶ __	Declaration of Russell W. Mangum III, Ph.D., in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Class Certification (Dkt. 179-3)
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Opp. __	Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion for Class Certification (Dkt. 195)
Schnell ¶ __	Declaration of Ron Schnell (Dkt. 195-16)
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Shafiq Reply ¶ __	Expert Reply Declaration of Zubair Shafiq, Ph.D., in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Class Certification (filed concurrently with this Reply Memorandum)

1 Defendants uniformly and automatically collect baseline data from everyone
 2 who visits a non-TikTok website that uses the Pixel or EAPI. Defendants downplay
 3 this as “the mere collection of browsing data,” Opp. 1, and pretend that the only
 4 actionable conduct is the collection of [REDACTED]. This
 5 is not true. In any event, that is a merits question.

6 The relevant inquiry at this stage is not whether Defendants’ conduct is legal,
 7 but whether that question is capable of class-wide resolution. It is. The Court should
 8 certify the proposed classes.

9 **A. Defendants’ Concessions.**

10 Defendants concede that California law applies nationwide, the classes are
 11 sufficiently numerous, and Plaintiffs’ counsel are adequate. *Rozier v. Dep’t of*
 12 *Homeland Sec. Fed. Protective Serv.*, 2022 WL 2199938, at *3 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 7,
 13 2022).

14 **B. Plaintiffs’ Class Definitions Are Appropriate.**

15 The classes are not “overbroad.” Opp. 7. Plaintiffs seek to certify classes of
 16 non-TikTok users whose data Defendants intercepted from websites that use the Pixel
 17 (Class 1). Opening 2-3 (describing additional classes). Defendants and their technical
 18 expert, Mr. Schnell, do not dispute that even without any configuration from websites
 19 with the Pixel installed, TikTok sets PageView as a default event, then uniformly and
 20 automatically collects Timestamp, IP Address, User Agent, Cookies, URLs, Event
 21 Information, and Content Information (“Default Data”). Opening 8; Shafiq Reply
 22 ¶¶60-62; Ex. 38 (30:12-14, 124:18-22).¹ Defendants do not dispute Plaintiffs’ expert
 23 Dr. Shafiq’s finding that 2,000 random websites that use the Pixel collected all seven

24
 25
 26 ¹ Unable to dispute that the Pixel automatically collects Default Data, Defendants and
 27 Mr. Schnell argue that such collection is “industry-standard” and just “the way the
 28 Internet works.” Opp. 1; Schnell ¶¶33, 44. Wrong. Unlike other pixels on the market
 that limit collection, TikTok purposefully chooses to collect Default Data. Shafiq
 Reply ¶¶24-36.

1 categories of Default Data nearly 100% of the time. Shafiq ¶¶76-80, Shafiq Reply
2 ¶¶60-62.

3 Defendants assert that [REDACTED]
4 [REDACTED]. Opp. 9, 11.² But Defendants automatically and uniformly also collect
5 IP Address, User Agent, and Cookies, which are identifiers in their own right. Shafiq
6 ¶¶47-66; Shafiq Reply ¶¶75-79. Defendants also collect [REDACTED]
7 [REDACTED]. As the FTC warns, despite some companies' claims otherwise, hashed data
8 is trivially reversible and identifying. Shafiq Reply ¶¶79, 88.

9 Second, Defendants argue that [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED]. Opp. 9. This misses the mark.
11 Extrapolating from Defendants' sample—consisting of data collected in under one
12 hour—implies that they collect [REDACTED]. Shafiq Reply
13 ¶¶82-84. And full-string URLs, which Defendants concededly collect (e.g., Schnell
14 ¶¶33, 72), are sensitive even when they do not contain [REDACTED]. They often
15 transmit other sensitive data via the domain itself and in the context of broader
16 browsing history and identifying information collected by TikTok. Shafiq Reply
17 ¶¶87-91.

18 Defendants' cases (Opp. 8) support certification. In *United States v. Forrester*,
19 the collection of IP addresses was constitutional only because they did not reveal "the
20 contents of the messages" or "the websites the person viewed." 512 F.3d 500, 510
21 (9th Cir. 2008). *In re Zynga Privacy Litigation*, 750 F.3d 1098, 1107-09 (9th Cir.
22

23 ² Defendants' claim that [REDACTED] (Opp. 10; *see also id.* at 14) is demonstrably false
24 and reeks of gamesmanship. First, the SAC identifies Etsy, and Dr. Shafiq found
25 [REDACTED]. See Shafiq ¶63(vi). Second, Defendants conveniently omit that the sample they produced was
26 from under an hour and does not remotely encompass all the class-member data
27 collected during the class period. Indeed, Defendants purposely deleted most of that
28 data. Plaintiffs will separately file a motion seeking relief from Defendants' simultaneous deletion of class-member data and weaponization of the resulting absence of data.

1 2014), found the collection of referer headers lawful only because they did not
 2 contain the kind of information contained in full URLs. The Ninth Circuit
 3 distinguished *Forrester* and *Zynga* in *In re Facebook Internet Tracking Litigation*
 4 because Facebook collected “full-string detailed URL,” the “full referral URL,” and
 5 “correlate[d] that URL” with identifying information. 956 F.3d 589, 604-05 (9th Cir.
 6 2020). TikTok uniformly collects the same type of information here, making this case
 7 like *Facebook Tracking* and unlike *Forrester* and *Zynga*. Defendants purposefully
 8 design the Pixel to collect information not only from the Referer header (like in
 9 *Zynga*) but also from the HTTP payload (which allows it to collect full-string referer
 10 URLs even when websites try to limit that transmission)—not to mention event
 11 listeners that scrape metadata and follow around every mouse movement on a
 12 webpage to infer button clicks. Shafiq Reply ¶¶30-31 & Figs. 1&2; Shafiq ¶¶64-66.
 13 The full-string URLs and button clicks that TikTok collects are “content.” See *In re*
 14 *Meta Pixel Healthcare Litig.*, 647 F.Supp.3d 778, 795 (N.D. Cal. 2022); *Hammerling*
 15 v. *Google LLC*, 615 F.Supp.3d 1069, 1089 (N.D. Cal. 2022) (that Google allegedly
 16 collected usage data across non-Google apps sufficient to allege reasonable
 17 expectation of privacy); *Griffith v. TikTok, Inc.*, 697 F.Supp.3d 963, 975-76 (C.D.
 18 Cal. Oct. 6, 2023) (rebuking Defendants’ reliance on outdated *Low v. LinkedIn Corp.*,
 19 900 F.Supp.2d 1010 (N.D. Cal. 2012)).

20 Even accepting Defendants’ myopic framing of the facts, the “factual issues”
 21 are not “individualized.” Opp. 9. First, for the privacy and seclusion claims, even if
 22 the “data must be identifying and sensitive,”³ Opp. 8, that inquiry can be conducted
 23 in a programmatic, class-wide basis. Shafiq Reply ¶¶82-84, 93-94. Second, for the
 24 CIPA and ECPA claims, even if the full-string URL “must contain particular
 25 information like search terms” to constitute “contents,” Opp. 8, Dr. Shafiq has
 26 already written a program that can programmatically identify search terms in URLs.
 27

28 ³ But *Facebook Tracking* actually *rejected* Facebook’s argument that “Plaintiffs need
 to identify specific, sensitive information that Facebook collected.” 956 F.3d at 603.

1 Shafiq ¶63(vi) & App'x B. Third, whether class members “have some recognized
 2 basis to exclude others from that information” is a class-wide inquiry of whether they
 3 have a reasonable expectation that Defendants would not collect their data from non-
 4 TikTok websites. *See Griffith*, 697 F.Supp.3d at 971.

5 **C. Plaintiffs Satisfy Rule 23(a).**

6 1. Commonality

7 The existence of “a single common question” of fact or law satisfies
 8 commonality under Rule 23(a). *See Franklin v. Midwest Recovery Sys., LLC*, 2021
 9 WL 1035121, at *2 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 5, 2021). The questions that Defendants
 10 themselves identify—“(1) whether information was disclosed to TTI and (2) the
 11 nature of the information,” Opp. 11—are common questions. On Defendants’ first
 12 question, Dr. Shafiq’s testing on 2,000 randomly selected websites shows that six of
 13 seven categories of Default Data “w[ere] disclosed to TTI” 100% of the time and
 14 Content Information nearly 98% of the time. Shafiq ¶¶77-80. There is no substantial
 15 variability across websites, [REDACTED]. Shafiq ¶¶76-86; Shafiq
 16 Reply ¶¶62-74.

17 On Defendants’ second question, all data points collected include, as a
 18 baseline, identifying fields (IP Address, User Agent, Cookies, email and phone either
 19 hashed or unhashed) and sensitive content (URL, Event Information, Content
 20 Information). Shafiq ¶¶47-66. That the data collected is identifying and sensitive is
 21 particularly true where one looks at each collected data point in context of the overall
 22 browsing history collected from countless websites. Shafiq Reply ¶¶89-91.
 23 Defendants cite zero authority for their claim that the Court must look at each data
 24 point in isolation to see whether it contains both identifying and sensitive
 25 information.

26 Defendants attempt to blame the websites who use the Pixel for Defendants’
 27 unlawful conduct, Opp. p.11, but such finger-pointing does not preclude certification.
 28 First, Defendants start with the truism that [REDACTED]

1 This doesn't get Defendants far because [REDACTED]

2 [REDACTED] Shafiq ¶63. Second, Defendants say [REDACTED]

3 [REDACTED] but regardless of how the website configures its URL,
4 Defendants could choose not to collect sensitive content from that URL. Ex. 39 (90:6-
5 17); Shafiq Reply ¶¶30-32. They choose to collect it.

6 Third, Defendants fixate on the fact that "advertisers decide whether to install
7 [Pixel] on every page of its website or on certain pages," noting that the Pixel
8 (**currently**) is installed on riteaid.com but not on riteaid.com/pharmacy. Opp. 11, 13;
9 Shafiq Reply ¶108; Ex. 38 (143:20-24) ([REDACTED])

10 [REDACTED]). Even in the rare circumstance where the
11 Pixel is not installed on every webpage, it is typically installed on the homepage.
12 Using the RiteAid example, this means that TikTok collects class-member data when
13 they visit "riteaid.com" even before they navigate to the pharmacy subpage. Dr.
14 Shafiq found the Pixel installed on 100% of the homepages of the 2,000 randomly
15 sampled websites he tested. Shafiq Reply ¶110.⁴
16

17 As to "individualized issues" via "class member interactions," Opp. 11-12,
18 Defendants tout "many privacy protection options, such as cookie blockers or other
19 privacy controls" but fail to acknowledge sources cited by their own expert, which
20 show that the most popular adblockers on the market do not block the TikTok Pixel's
21 transmissions. Shafiq Reply ¶112 & nn.188-191. Even if they did, [REDACTED]
22 [REDACTED]. Shafiq ¶39.

23 2. Typicality and Adequacy

24 "Typicality refers to the nature of the claim or defense of the class
25 representative, and not the specific facts from which it arose or the relief sought."

26 ⁴ If the Court finds Defendants' argument persuasive, then the class definition can be
27 modified to refer to "webpage" instead of "website" pursuant to the Court's inherent
28 authority to "redefine the class to bring it within the scope of Rule 23." 7A Wright &
Miller, Federal Practice and Procedure § 1759 (4th ed. 2023).

1 *Abels v. JBC Legal Grp., P.C.*, 227 F.R.D. 541, 545 (N.D. Cal. 2005) (citation
 2 omitted).

3 Defendants' scattershot arguments attacking typicality and adequacy all fail.
 4 First, Defendants are wrong that Plaintiffs "cannot represent visitors to websites they
 5 themselves never visited." Opp. 13. All the websites at issue employ common
 6 software, which collects a common set of Default Data. The collection does not vary
 7 from one website to the next. Shafiq ¶¶76-80. This satisfies typicality. *Chavez v. Blue*
 8 *Sky Nat. Beverage Co.*, 268 F.R.D. 365, 377-78 (N.D. Cal. 2010). Alternatively,
 9 Plaintiffs may represent the proposed website-specific classes.

10 Second, there are no "divergent interests" among class members (Opp. 13):
 11 Whether they ordered McDonalds from Doordash or made a medical appointment,
 12 they have a shared common interest in not having their data intercepted or used by
 13 Defendants.

14 Third, Plaintiffs have standing, and Defendants are factually incorrect that
 15 Plaintiffs "have not shown a disclosure" of their data to Defendants. Opp. 14.
 16 Plaintiffs submitted declarations that they visited websites using the Pixel and EAPI
 17 during the class period. Dkts. 177-2, 177-3, 177-4. That establishes standing. *See Van*
 18 *v. LLR, Inc.*, 61 F.4th 1053, 1064 (9th Cir. 2023) (even "trifling" injury suffices).

19 Fourth, for the reasons discussed below, *infra* Sec. E, Defendants have not
 20 shown consent.

21 **D. Plaintiffs Satisfy Rule 23(b)(3).**

22 Defendants' attacks on predominance are likewise unavailing. To satisfy
 23 predominance, "a plaintiff need not rebut every individualized issue that could
 24 possibly be raised. To demand such proof would be akin to demanding proof 'that
 25 plaintiffs would win at trial.'" *Van*, 61 F.4th at 1066 (citation omitted).

26 1. Privacy and Seclusion

27 Common questions predominate for both elements of Plaintiffs' privacy and
 28 seclusion claims, and Defendants' argument to the contrary ignores black-letter law.

1 “[W]hether someone has a reasonable expectation of privacy is an objective, and
 2 therefore common, inquiry.” *In re Google RTB Consumer Priv. Litig.*, 2024 WL
 3 2242690, at *5 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 4, 2024); *Rodriguez*, 2024 WL 38302, at *4
 4 (reasonable expectation of privacy is “objective”; judged by “reasonable person”
 5 standard); *Brown v. Google LLC*, 685 F.Supp.3d 909, 941 (N.D. Cal. Aug 7, 2023)
 6 (same). By definition, an objective standard obviates the need to examine plaintiffs’
 7 subjective expectations. *E.g. Opperman v. Path*, 2016 WL 3844326, at *11 (N.D.
 8 Cal. Jul. 15, 2016).

9 To determine whether there was a reasonable expectation of privacy, the
 10 factfinder should consider “the identity of the intruder,” “the extent to which other
 11 persons had access to the subject place,” and “the means by which the intrusion
 12 occurred.” *Hernandez v. Hillsides, Inc.*, 47 Cal.4th 272, 286-87 (2009). Those are
 13 common issues, focusing on “the intruder’s motives and objectives” and “the degree
 14 and setting of the intrusion.” *Id.* These factors do not involve analysis of the
 15 plaintiffs’ attributes. *Id.* at 288-300.⁵

16 As to the offensiveness of intrusion, internally, [REDACTED]
 17 [REDACTED], see Opening 11-12, which Defendants try
 18 to write off as [REDACTED] Opp. 17. Quite the
 19 contrary: Dr. Shafiq shows that Defendants could avoid the collection of Default
 20 Data, as other tracking pixels do. Shafiq Reply ¶¶24-36. They choose not to.

21 Defendants’ cases do not prevent certification. *McDonald v. Kiloo Aps*, 385
 22 F.Supp.3d 1022, 1035 (N.D. Cal. 2019) (cited in Opp. 17), actually **sustained** privacy
 23 claims, noting that “[c]urrent privacy expectations are developing” about “whether a
 24 commercial entity that secretly harvests [data] commits a highly offensive or
 25 egregious act.” By contrast, there was no secret data harvesting in *Hart v. TWC Prod.*

26
 27 ⁵ Because the privacy claims involve an “objective” standard, Defendants’ arguments
 28 that “[d]ifferent websites with different content, practices, and user interactions raise
 different privacy concerns,” Opp. 13, don’t matter. Dr. Stivers’ analysis is irrelevant
 at this stage. Plaintiffs will address Dr. Stivers’ flawed findings in due course.

1 & Tech. LLC, 2023 WL 3568078, at *11 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 30, 2023); TWC’s policy
 2 “explicitly disclosed the practices at issue,” as did a “panoply” of other sources. *In*
 3 *re Toll Rds. Litig.*, 2018 WL 4945531, at *7 (C.D. Cal. Oct. 3, 2018), where the court
 4 certified a Rule 23(b)(3) class, did not involve online data harvesting at all. *Cf.*
 5 *Rodriguez*, 2024 WL 38302, at *5 (distinguishing *Hart* and granting certification).

6 2. CIPA and ECPA

7 Defendants preview their merits arguments about the “contents” and “in
 8 transit” requirements (Opp. 18-19) and, in the process, unwittingly concede the class-
 9 wide nature of the inquiries about the data collection.

10 “Contents,” under ECPA, is “any information concerning the substance,
 11 purport, or meaning of that communication.” 18 U.S.C. § 2510; *Brodsky v. Apple*
 12 *Inc.*, 445 F.Supp.3d 110, 127 (N.D. Cal. 2020) (same under CIPA). Whether URLs
 13 constitute “contents” under these statutes is a common question. *See* Opening 13-15.
 14 Whether Event Information and Content Information—which reveal what someone
 15 is doing, viewing, and clicking, Shafiq ¶¶56, 64-65—constitute “contents” is also a
 16 class-wide inquiry.

17 While Plaintiffs dispute Defendants’ [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED] accord Shafiq Reply ¶¶95-102, the operation of the Pixel
 19 and EAPI either does or does not meet the “contemporaneous” and “in transit”
 20 requirements. Defendants argue that this inquiry “require[s] a close look at each
 21 configuration,” Opp. 19, yet they [REDACTED]
 22 [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]. Shafiq ¶32; Shafiq Reply ¶55-57. There is no evidence in the
 24 record that websites deviate from this [REDACTED].

25 3. Larceny and Conversion

26 Defendants’ arguments about these claims relitigate issues already decided by
 27 the Court. *Griffith*, 697 F.Supp.3d at 976 (“Defendants have not shown as a matter
 28

1 of law that Plaintiff's allegation that she had a property right in the data Defendants
 2 collected is implausible"). Regardless, that is capable of class-wide resolution.

3 4. Damages

4 *Disgorgement*: Defendants' arguments about Plaintiffs' disgorgement theories
 5 go to the applicability or amount of disgorgement, which are common issues. The
 6 "partitioning of damages among class members may lead to individual calculations,"
 7 but "those calculations would not impact a defendant's liability for the total amount
 8 of damages," and they "do not defeat certification." *Ruiz Torres v. Mercer Canyons*,
 9 835 F.3d 1125, 1140-41 (9th Cir. 2016). Defendants also lack standing to criticize
 10 the method of apportioning disgorgement. *Brown v. Google LLC*, 2022 WL
 11 17961497, at *7 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 12, 2022).

12 In any event, Defendants' argument that Plaintiffs must demonstrate the "net
 13 profit . . . attributable to the underlying wrong," Opp. 20, contradicts the law. Once
 14 Plaintiffs "present evidence of the total or gross amount of the benefit," the burden
 15 shifts to Defendants to show "costs, expenses, and other deductions to show the
 16 accrual or net benefit the defendant received." *Brown*, 2022 WL 17961497, at *6.
 17 Defendants have not met their burden. Nor can they, where testimony from
 18 Defendants' own experts and employees demonstrates that the Pixel cannot operate
 19 at all without collecting class-member data. Mangum Reply ¶¶11-18.

20 *Actual Damages*: Undercutting Defendants' baseless assertion that Plaintiffs
 21 provided no method to determine actual damages (Opp. 21) is the fact that Plaintiffs'
 22 model is similar to the one endorsed in *Rodriguez*. 2024 WL 38302, at *11-12. See
 23 Opening 19; Mangum ¶¶85-123. Defendants' argument that "[a]ny valuation requires
 24 comparing how much and what data was collected from each class member," Opp.
 25 21, ignores that the market measures used by Dr. Mangum do not pay consumers
 26 based on how much or what data is collected. Mangum Reply ¶¶21-29. Even if
 27 calculating actual damages requires "comparing how much and what data was
 28 collected from each class member" (it doesn't), that *still* would not defeat

1 certification. *See In re Lidoderm Antitrust Litig.*, 2017 WL 679367, at *25 (N.D. Cal.
 2 Feb. 21, 2017).

3 Statutory Damages: While TikTok mentions the “discretionary” nature of
 4 statutory damages, Opp. 21, their availability is a common question. Disparity in
 5 damages claimed by representatives and other class members doesn’t preclude
 6 certification. *Santoro v. Aargon Agency, Inc.*, 252 F.R.D. 675, 681 (D. Nev. 2008),
 7 *as corrected* (Oct. 21, 2008).

8 **E. Defendants Fail to Establish Individual Issues of Consent.**

9 “While Plaintiffs bear the burden of proving predominance under 23(b)(3),
 10 [TikTok] bears the burden of proof for the affirmative defense of consent.”
 11 *Rodriguez*, 2024 WL 38302, at *8; *see* Opening 17 (applicable legal standard). When
 12 assessing predominance, courts “do not consider the consent defenses … for which
 13 [a defendant] has presented no evidence.” *True Health Chiropractic, Inc. v.*
 14 *McKesson Corp.*, 896 F.3d 923, 932 (9th Cir. 2018).

15 Defendants present no evidence of express consent. Class members have no
 16 reason to know that when they browse websites, Defendants take and use their data.
 17 This Court already found that the privacy policies of the websites identified in the
 18 complaint failed to establish even “awareness,” let alone consent. *Griffith*, 697
 19 F.Supp.3d at 972.

20 The same is true of all websites that use the Pixel and EAPI. In response to an
 21 interrogatory to identify all websites that “specifically disclosed the Website’s usage
 22 of the TikTok Pixel and/or the TikTok Events API and the collection of data
 23 specifically by TikTok and/or ByteDance,” Defendants refused to identify a single
 24 website. Ex. 36. Defendants’ corporate representative [REDACTED]
 25 [REDACTED]. Ex. 41 (264:4-13).

26 Defendants for the first time identify *two* websites, which they claim notify
 27 visitors of the Pixel. Opp. 6. But those disclosures fall short. Neither mentions EAPI
 28 or ByteDance. Every Man Jack says “we use the TikTok Pixel” but does not explain

1 that it collects data on non-TikTok users, and it refers readers to “TikTok’s **user**
 2 privacy policy” for more information. *See Opp.* 6 n.2. Bump Box identifies TikTok
 3 cookies but does not explain what they do. *See id.* n.3. Neither “convincingly show[s]
 4 that the party knew about and consented to” Defendants’ collection of Default Data
 5 from non-TikTok users. *In re Gmail*, 2014 WL 1102660, at *16 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 18,
 6 2014).

7 Defendants likewise do not enforce any purported disclosure “requirement.”
 8 *See Ex.* 42 (332:20-333:3); *Ex.* 41 (166:17-18, 164:16-165:8). Defendants’ expert
 9 testified that [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED] *Ex.* 38 (98:13-22). [REDACTED]

11 [REDACTED] *. Id.* (67:13-77:13; 82:2-
 12 83:19); Li ¶11. [REDACTED]

13 [REDACTED]
 14 [REDACTED]. *Ex.* 43 at -7689-7691.

15 Implied consent also fails. Defendants claim that, by continuing to visit
 16 websites that use the Pixel or EAPI, plaintiffs impliedly consented to Defendants’
 17 receipt of their data. *Opp.* 19-20. *Rodriguez* forecloses this argument: “It is
 18 unreasonable for Google to expect, as it does, that users must also stop using the
 19 many apps on their phone . . . to show a lack of consent.” 2024 WL 38302, at *5. The
 20 argument applies with even greater force here, where class members **do not even**
 21 **know** which websites use the Pixel or EAPI (and Defendants designated the list of
 22 websites as Attorneys’ Eyes Only to preclude even Plaintiffs’ access). For the few
 23 websites they did know used the Pixel or EAPI, Plaintiffs testified that they tried to
 24 be aware of, avoid, or limit using them. *Ex.* 44 (345:17); *Ex.* 45 (255:18-19); *Ex.* 46
 25 (282:11-14). Crediting Defendants’ implied-consent theory would require non-
 26 TikTok users to stop using the Internet altogether.

27 Defendants cannot rely on *Google RTB* or *Brown* because they have not shown
 28 any evidence of consent. *See Google RTB*, 2024 WL 2242690, at *12-14 (specific

1 disclosures to account holders, language in Google’s privacy policy, surveys);
 2 *Brown*, 2022 WL 17961497, at *17-19 (specific language from privacy policy, other
 3 notices, survey, media and academic reports, and hyperlink on the Incognito screen
 4 clicked more than 14 million times).

5 **F. Defendants’ Arguments about Ascertainability and Superiority Are
 6 Misplaced.**

7 Defendants argue that “class membership is individualized” because “[s]elf-
 8 reporting is unreliable.” Opp. 15. But plaintiffs need not establish ascertainability.
 9 *Briseno v. ConAgra Foods, Inc.*, 844 F.3d 1121, 1133 (9th Cir. 2017). Defendants’
 10 cases questioning self-identification pre-date *Briseno*. Opp. 15-16.

11 Defendants complain that they cannot verify class members’ identities against
 12 their own records, Opp. 16, but Defendants created that issue by purposely deleting
 13 class-member data. “[C]ourts generally do not bar class certification where the
 14 defendant’s own destruction of records causes difficulty in identifying class
 15 members.” *Raffin v. Medicredit, Inc.*, 2017 WL 131745, at *6 n.5 (C.D. Cal. Jan. 3,
 16 2017).

17 Defendants also complain about determining “specific pages with the Pixel”
 18 or “the period it was used,” Opp. 22, but Defendants possess this information. Class
 19 members need only confirm that they visited a website with the Pixel during the
 20 relevant time. Whether a class member visited a particular webpage with the Pixel is
 21 an issue not of identification but of damages. Even if some class members have no
 22 damages, the presence of even a greater than *de minimis* number of “uninjured” class
 23 members does not bar certification. *Olean Wholesale Grocery Coop., Inc. v. Bumble
 24 Bee Foods LLC*, 31 F.4th 651, 669 (9th Cir. 2022).

25 Finally, whether or not “a website may have multiple pixels with changing
 26 settings running simultaneously,” Default Data is always taken, obviating
 27 individualized inquiry. Defendants’ assertion that there would be individual
 28 determination of “whether the data disclosure included personal, sensitive, or

1 substantive information” misstates the law. *Supra* n.3. Nevertheless, Dr. Shafiq
 2 explains how the data can be linked to individuals. Shafiq Reply ¶¶75-79, 87-88.

3 **G. The Court Should Certify an Injunctive Class.**

4 Defendants’ conclusory claim that injunctive relief affects class members
 5 differently is meritless. Opp. 22-23, Defendants collect and use Default Data from
 6 every class member. Plaintiffs seek to enjoin that common practice and Defendants’
 7 ongoing use of class-member data, including products or algorithms built with that
 8 data. *E.g. United States v. Kurbo, Inc.*, No. 3:22-cv-946, Dkt. 15 at II.D (N.D. Cal.
 9 Mar. 3, 2022).

10 Further, Defendants continue to collect class-member data, so there will be
 11 future injury to class members absent injunctive relief. Defendants have not satisfied
 12 their burden regarding the defense of consent, and such argument is particularly
 13 improper concerning injunctive relief where Defendants have identified in this
 14 litigation hundreds of thousands of websites that have used the Pixel. That
 15 information is not publicly available to class members (or even to Plaintiffs). Short
 16 of steering clear of the Internet altogether, Plaintiffs could not avoid Defendants’
 17 improper data collection without injunctive relief. *Rodriguez*, 2023 WL 38302, at *5.

18
 19 Dated: July 26, 2024

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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

The undersigned counsel of record for Plaintiffs certifies that this brief contains 4,000 words, which complies with the word limit of Rule 6(c)(i) of Judge Stanley Blumenfeld, Jr.'s Standing Order for Civil Cases.

/s/ Gloria Park
Gloria Park

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned say:

I am not a party to the above case, and am over eighteen years old. On July 26, 2024, I caused to be served true and correct copies of the foregoing document, by posting the document electronically to the ECF website of the United States District Court for the Central District of California, for receipt electronically by the parties listed on the Court's Service List.

I affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on July 26, 2024, at New York, NY.

/s/ Gloria Park
Gloria Park